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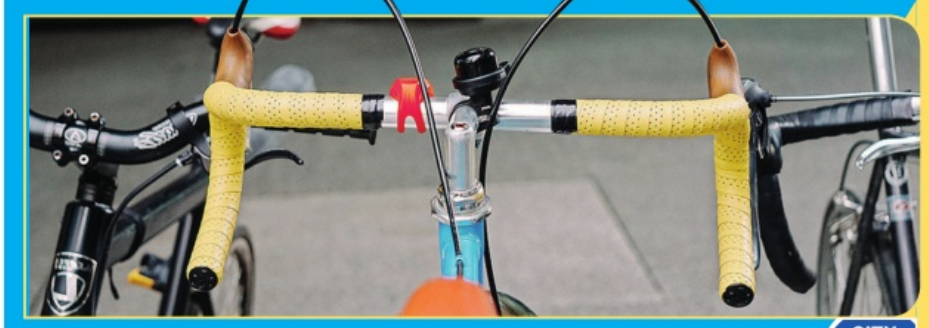
Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 25 | Min 20 | Humidity 89% Generally cloudy sky with Light rain Sensex 60,906 | Nifty 18,082 | Gold 51,160 | Silver 64,500 | Dollar 82.78 | Euro 81.91 | GBP 95.12

CITY PAGE 3

Flyover audit All structures in city to be audited by December



Cycle of life Where's the all-inclusive space for us, ask cyclists

CITY PAGE 5

Nitrate levels in potable water spike due to 'unscientific sewage disposal, extensive fertiliser use' as groundwater exploitation continues

UNDERCURRENTS

Value between 0.2 to 145 mg/l in Bengaluru north

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Rapid urbanisation has contaminated Bengaluru's groundwater with nitrate levels higher than permissible limits across taluks.

A recent report by the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) revealed that the discharge of toxic elements from landfills, industries and intense agricultural activities is leading to the contamination of groundwater in Bengaluru north, east and rural taluks.

The CGWA found that nitrate contamination in drinking water is a problem across all three taluks — nitrate levels in drinking water should not exceed 45 mg/l as per the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS); the value ranged between 0.2 to 145 mg/l in Bengaluru north taluk.

In Bengaluru east, over 30% of the samples were found to have nitrate levels higher than the permissible limit; values of the samples were in the range of 7 mg/l to 57 mg/l.

The worst hit is the rural district of the city. Around 60% of the samples collected from the rural parts of Bengaluru were found to be contaminated with higher nitrate levels.

Experts said nitrate contamination is anthropogenic in nature and takes place mostly due to unscientific disposal of domestic

> **"Nitrate is carcinogenic... groundwater samples collected around lakes receiving untreated sewage were high in nitrate**
> — Dr TV Ramachandra, Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

Bus to the future

BMTC thinking of adding hydrogen fuel cell-powered buses to fleet; may get two vehicles from Germany for R&D

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After electric buses, the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation is now mulling over adding hydrogen fuel cell-powered buses to its fleet in the coming years as part of conceiving an eco-friendly and sustainable public transport system for Bengaluru.

"Though it is still in the planning stage, we are planning to get two hydrogen fuel cell buses from Germany in the next six to seven months. We would first operate these buses for research and development purposes and decide if we can actually add them to the fleet," a senior BMTC official told Bangalore Mirror.

Experts believe that, so far, hydrogen fuel cell buses are supposed to be the most eco-friendly mode of transport as the fuel cell utilises hydrogen and air to generate electricity to power the bus, and the only effluent from the bus is water, which significantly reduces the harmful tailpipe emissions.

Anand M Shivapuji, research scientist from the Centre for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Organic talk

Bangalore Creative Circus has curated an exciting group of farmers and producers that will be selling everything organic and fresh. The market is an initiative to connect us to our source of food, while promoting those that grow food with utmost care for our health as well as the planet. Additionally, there will be music, farm to table food, an arts corner for kids (and adults!), and oodles of fun!

Where: Bangalore Creative Circus, Yeswanthpur Industrial Suburb; When: November 6, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm; Entry: Free, 9611854141

02 Spooky thrills

In case you and your little ones have missed this year's Halloween bash, you still have a chance to make up and catch up on all the eerie fun. Experience the haunted thrills with your little ones this November at Nexus Shantiniketan Mall with Hamleys Halloween Haunted Circus with some nerve wrecking spooky scares. Starting from scary clowns, frightening performers and freak shows and gigs, the Halloween Haunted Circus will have everything in store to spook your little ones making it fun for them at the same time.

Where: Nexus Shantiniketan Mall
When: Till November 11; Tickets: bookmyshow.com

03 Yoga sesh, anyone?

Attend these yoga classes by Sneha Yogish, an internationally certified yoga teacher. The vinayasa flow-based classes are designed in a way to help every kind of body and people from various professions with meticulous attention given to the anatomy and alignment of the poses. Classes include asana practice, meditation and pranayama.

Where: Lahe Lahe; When: November 3, 8-9 am

Kids, get, set, learn minus bags & books!

No-bag Saturday to be held in government schools once a month to help kids be at their creative best

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Art and craft activities, civic awareness take precedence on such no-bag days for children

To boost creativity among kids and help them learn without the aid of books and a set curriculum, the Department of State Education Research and Training (DSERT) recently released a circular stating that 'no-bag Saturday' will be started for government schools once every month.

Every month on one Saturday, children will participate in various activities that will develop civic consciousness among them. The circular said that 'no-bag Saturday' will be held on the days when schools hold monthly consultation meetings and teachers will be fewer in numbers.

Some CBSE, ICSE, and other private-aided schools in Bengaluru have already implemented this system. However, despite several advisories from the Education Department, most schools in the state have not implemented it.

Karnataka Associated Managements of English Medium Schools (KAMS) General Secretary D Shashi Kumar said that some schools in the city have had no-bag days for a few years now.

"On such days, the schools carry craft-related items. There is no fixed curriculum for such days and the schools decide what activities they will be doing," he said.

He added that KAMS had also suggested that the department convert two Saturdays of the month into holidays and the rest full class-days.

"We suggested this system as it might help the students get more time with their parents. Most people have second Saturdays or last Saturdays off so they can spend that time with kids without hampering the curriculum," he further said.

Other experts believe that although the move is expected to benefit the students, the department should also consult with them regarding any future decision regarding no-bag days or co-curricular activities.

> **"It will lead to improved decision-making and better leadership qualities** – Nagasimha G Rao, Director, Child Rights Trust

"It will definitely benefit the students because, since the pandemic's inception, they have lost their creativity. The schools need to focus more on soft skills and no-school days that can provide that. We also suggest the parents have a no-mobile-phone day at their homes because screen addiction has increased very much among children," said Nagasimha G Rao, Director, Child Rights Trust.

"It is important that they survey and consult the children about such decisions instead of just imposing it on them. Now, many schools have half days on Saturdays, so children already carry a smaller number of books. If they would have consulted the children, they might have wanted some other day assigned for the same," he added.

Children's participation in these will also lead to improved decision-making and better leadership qualities, Rao added.

The Samagra Sikshana Karnataka (SSK) has released activity books for teachers and students for the no-bag days.

Winter vibes that leave you feeling blue

Doctors are sounding alarm bells for viral fever and similar weather-related ailments after fresh spells of rain and cold gripped the city. Respiratory illness, caused by respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), is still in circulation along with Covid-19, that can bring threat of diarrhoeal disorders and dengue and chikungunya, in addition to seasonal flu.

RSV infections, which are common in adults, can bring severe infections among the elderly and children. Adults may build up antibodies against RSV and hence symptoms are generally mild.

A senior doctor said, "During the rain and after, there will be a surge in diarrhoea due to stagnation of water."

Experts also point out the changing weather. They say that air may have carried enough moisture making the mornings very cold. A dermatologist said that morning walkers were more prone to such skin issues. "When they are not protected with moisturising cream, their skin tends to get dry and itchy. Since it's really windy too, there are more chances of developing allergic reactions," she says adding that the hair scalp also gets dry leading to more intensive hair fall. The issues would be at its peak from November to February, during the winter season," she says.

For vector-borne diseases, experts add that maintaining complete hygiene while eating, treating drinking water with chlorine tablets, washing hands is mandatory. Water must not be allowed to stagnate. A mosquito net will also help keep dengue at bay.

More rains likely
A cyclonic circulation lies over Tamil Nadu and neighbourhood and a trough runs from this system to north interior Karnataka in lower and middle tropospheric levels. Under their influence, widespread very light to light rains likely over the BBMP area. The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be around 26 and 19 degree Celsius respectively.

What are the symptoms?

Dengue begins with fever and other flu-like symptoms, besides severe body ache and nausea. They appear after 5-7 days of being bitten by an infected mosquito.

What should one do?

Self-medication can be fatal. If fever persists for more than two days, see a doctor. Tests should be done by a qualified pathologist. Inquire about the lab before giving a blood sample. Two tests available for confirmation of dengue virus are ELISA and rapid immuno chromatographic test.

— BMB

Flyover health check by Dec

BBMP chief says consultant will be asked to submit report after audit of all 42 flyovers in city

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The Sumanahalli flyover was blocked in September this year after a hole developed on it

The year 2022 will be remembered for exposing the 'sub-standard' quality of flyover work in the city. Now officials have decided to expedite an audit of flyovers' health and the report is likely to be out by December this year.

Sumanahalli flyover was earlier shut for repairs due to a gaping hole in it; Sivananda Circle flyover has been facing issues even after inauguration; MES road flyover was shut recently for repairs and Peenya flyover is still out of bounds for heavy vehicles.

BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said, "There are 42 flyovers under the purview of BBMP. Recently, there have been issues on flyover surfaces and this is creating commotion among the public. We have engaged a consultant to check the health of the flyovers for a period of three years. The consultant will check the stability of the flyover."

According to him, as per their latest report, there is no threat to stability of any flyover. "For Sumanahalli, the consultant had earlier flagged concern over the surface area but stated that there was no threat to stability. We are currently fixing the surface. Now, we have asked the consultant to check all the 42 flyovers and submit a report by December this year. In case any fault is identified, we will use funds from our ESCROW account and take up the repair works," he said.

> **In case any fault is identified, we will use funds from our ESCROW account and take up the repair works** –Tushar Giri Nath, BBMP Chief Commissioner

Citizens are not meanwhile convinced by the utility of flyovers. Raj Alva, a college student, said, "Bengaluru was once called a flyover city as numerous flyovers were being built all across the city. Whether these flyovers have been helpful to decongest the city is always debatable. However, the worrying factor is the quality of the construction work. The multi-crore Peenya flyover has exposed shoddy work. The Sivananda flyover is in the news for all the wrong reasons. The MES flyover has been repaired twice already. So, this should create enough awareness on the quality of construction. We already have examples of the Sirsi Circle flyover being shut for repairs every now and then. The Cauvery underpass is still in a pathetic condition with drainage water flowing almost every other day," he said.

The quality of flyover work came to the fore after Sumanahalli flyover was temporarily shut for traffic due to a gaping hole. The flyover was constructed by BDA across the Magadi road-Outer Ring road junction between 2004-6. However, in November 2019, a six-feet-long and four-feet-wide hole was spotted on the flyover. BBMP officials said that the metal frame of the flyover was intact and they were only fixing the gaping hole now. Though the flyover is thrown open to traffic, the surface of the flyover is very rough and filled with potholes making it difficult for the motorists to drive.

What the audit will check

BBMP officials said that the audit will check various parameters including the flyover's safety, strength, structure quality and maintenance. "We had outsourced a similar audit to a consultant in 2019-20 for which the report was submitted in September 2020 and that report had mentioned that all the flyovers were safe," said an official.

According to BBMP sources, 66 flyovers or grade separators have been constructed either by BBMP or BDA in Bengaluru city. There are few of the grade separators in the city as old as two to three decades and safety audits of these flyovers need to be taken up on priority basis. For a long time, experts have been demanding a safety audit.

Experts say BBMP should go for a non-destructive test (NDT) of the flyovers by testing dynamic and static loads. NDT should be known to assess deflection, oscillation, vibrations and other parameters. They also suggested BBMP hold the contractor responsible in case of poor quality work. "There should be a mechanism to test construction materials in a certified lab and a thorough check is done later to ensure all safety parameters are followed," said an expert.

Trying to save brother, 3 girls drown

In a tragic incident, three girls drowned while trying to save their brother from drowning in a pond in Karnataka's Vijayanagar district on Wednesday, but in vain as the brother too met the watery grave.

The girls saw their brother drowning in the pond near their residence in Channahalli Tanda and rushed to rescue him. However, in the process, the three sisters drowned.

The deceased have been identified as Abhi (13), Ashwini (14), Kaveri (18) and Apoorva (18), police said.

The police, fire force and emergency service personnel, who rushed to the spot, have fished out three bodies.

Search is on for Apporva's body, the police said. A case has been registered and investigation is on. **IANS**

Suspected rape: Girl found dead in Kalaburagi

A 15-year-old girl, who went out to attend nature's call, was found dead in Kalaburagi, police said on Wednesday.

Preliminary investigation suggests that the girl was gang-raped and murdered by miscreants, police sources said.

According to police, the girl had gone out of the house to attend nature's call on Tuesday afternoon at 3 p.m.

When she failed to return, the family members started searching for her. Finally, her body was recovered from a farm.

The girl, a Class 9 student, was staying at her relative's place, police said. Aland police have taken up the investigation. **IANS**

10 yrs on, investor awaits grievance redressal

Confusion on how panel decided to cancel project 11 days before getting letter about it

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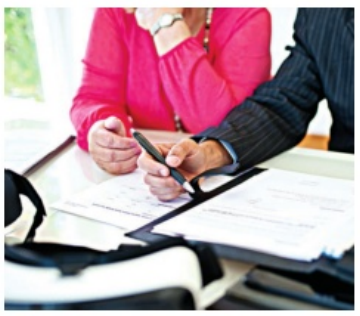

Can any committee take a decision on a letter 11 days before it reaches them? It seems such impossible things are possible in Karnataka if the complaint of an investor to a State High Level Clearance Committee (SHLCC) is anything to go by.

The letter requesting cancellation of land near Devanahalli was allegedly written by Pash Space International Pvt Ltd on January 20, 2011. A certified true copy given by the Managing Director of Karnataka Udyog Mitra indicates the Udyog Mitra received the letter on February 1, 2011 requesting to cancel the land allotted for the project proposal for Value Homes at Devanahalli.

However, the 24th SHLCC held on January 24, 2011 chaired by the Chief Minister of that time approved the withdrawal of approval granted to Pash Space International Pvt Ltd.

According to the document available with BM, the project proposal of Pash Space to establish Value Homes for the Middle and Lower Income Group at an investment of Rs 600 crore, on 26 acres of land to be allotted by the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board at Devanahalli Industrial Area, Bangalore Rural District was approved in-principle in the 23rd SHLCC meeting held on June 19, 2010 and accordingly a GO was issued to the company.

The document states that the project proponents informed vide letter dated January 20, 2011, that they are not interested in continuing with the proposed project approved for the company by SHLCC and requested to cancel the allotment.

The 24th SHLCC noted the request of the company and withdrew the approval and advised the KIADB not to allot the land to the company.

Alam Pasha of Pash Space International Pvt Ltd said he never wrote a letter seeking cancellation of the allotment of land.

"Karnataka Udyog Mitra document indicates that a request for cancellation was received on February 1, 2011. How come the 24th SHLCC held on January 24, 2011 took a decision on a letter that reached it after 11 days (February 1) of the meeting?" Alam Pasha asked.

He said it is disturbing that while the Global Investors Meet is on in Bengaluru, grievances of investors who inked pacts with the State Government during the last Global Investors Meet are still unresolved. "I am yet to get the land allotted for the construction of Value Homes for the middle and lower income groups. My complaint has been pending with the state government for more than a decade," he said, adding that a case is pending in the Supreme Court in this regard.

> **I am yet to get the land allotted... My complaint has been pending with the state government for over a decade** –Alam Pasha, Pash Space

Minister for Large and Medium Industries Murugesh Nirani was not available for comment.

Pothole filling: Less talk, more action now

BBMP Chief Commissioner assures pothole-free Bengaluru by November 10

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The stretch between NICE Road to Raja Rajeswari Hospital in bad shape on Mysore Road (File photo)

With potholes multiplying on roads after the recent splash of rains, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) will now reportedly ensure pothole-free stretches instead of counting craters. Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said that all potholes in Bengaluru would be filled by November 10.

Taking note of last week's clear weather, the agency has decided not to delay the process any further. They will also take up asphalting of roads that have been badly affected by rains under the Amrutha Nagrothana fund.

Of the 13,000 km of roads, the Palike will place primary focus on arterial roads. After these roads are declared free of potholes, ward roads will be taken up. It is estimated to cost the civic body Rs 20 crore for 470 (arterial and sub-arterial) roads and Rs 30 lakh per ward to take up pothole filling.

Nath said that an estimated 1,000-1,500 potholes are being filled daily. By November 5, 90-95 per cent of the potholes will be filled, and by November 10, all potholes will be filled, he assured, adding that failure to abide by the deadline could lead to suspension of engineers.

BBMP Engineer-In-Chief BS Prahallad said, "Previously, we only had one plant for hot mix, but now we have five. We will be able to effectively cover all of Bengaluru with these plants. 1,344 km out of 13,000 km of roads in Bengaluru are major roads. Daily updates will be published from November 1 on the BBMP website regarding pothole filling."

Digital way

Making pothole-filling a transparent process, BBMP is going the digital way. "The FixMyStreet app comes into effect today. No potholes will be manually measured and all payments will be made digitally. Identification and repair of potholes will be done along with GPS coordinates," explained Prahallad.

NHAI to 'quality check' craters

Coming down heavily on the BBMP in connection with the pothole menace in the city, the Karnataka High Court on Wednesday stated that filling in of potholes is a constitutional obligation of the civic agency. A bench, headed by Chief Justice Prasanna B Varale, expressed its displeasure that the orders released to repair pothole-ridden roads in the city have just remained on paper.

The court underlined that the action of giving certification for the filling up of potholes by the BBMP only is not appropriate. The BBMP is in charge of filling up potholes, but it can't give quality certification in this regard for its own work, it said, adding that in the coming days, the responsibility of quality certification will be given to the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI).

The court also directed that the Chief Engineer or senior engineer must be deputed to monitor the filling up of potholes. The BBMP must submit the status quo report to the NHAI within a week, and an officer deputed by the NHAI should undertake an inspection, it said.

The court stated that NHAI can also record the shortcomings of BBMP officers and contractors in its report. It could also give recommendations regarding pothole menace in its report. -IANS

BBMP has also floated a tender for the procurement of bitumen emulsion for filling potholes in the core and outer zones. "Bitumen emulsion is a stop-gap arrangement as it cannot be procured during the rainy season. We will be procuring 1,000-1,200 barrels of bitumen emulsion for consecutive years. Additionally, ready-mix-asphalt will also be procured and stored. We were too late for this year and too early for next year," he added.

Plastic infused roads

"In 2004-2006, we used to get 80/100-grade bitumen, but now we are getting 60/70-grade bitumen. Infusing plastics will bring down the quality of the bitumen. With better bitumen, we do not need plastic-infused roads. Additional usage of plastic amps up the costs as well," said Prahallad.

The future is hydrogen cell

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Sustainable Technologies at the Indian Institute of Science, explained how hydrogen-fuelled buses can be the future of sustainable transport in India. "The fuel cell takes in hydrogen and generates water; on the other hand, other conventional fuels release carbon dioxide which is a greenhouse gas... Secondly, the problem of soot and smoke coming out of the exhaust pipes of old diesel-run BMTC buses will be solved as there is no component other than water coming out of the exhaust in hydrogen-fuelled buses," he said.

This August, India's first indigenously built hydrogen fuel cell bus was unveiled in Pune

Shivapuji added that fuel cells are significantly more efficient as compared to diesel engines. "For example, a typical diesel engine can be operating at about 30% efficiency whereas hydrogen fuel cells can go up to 50% efficiency. So, for the same amount of input, there will be much greater mileage," he said.

When compared to electric vehicles (EVs), hydrogen-fuelled buses cut down on the charging time providing more operational hours.

"A fuel cell operates similar to a battery on a continuous flow of fuel. That is the advantage. Just like a CNG-fuelled vehicle, the hydrogen cylinder needs to be replaced when it gets exhausted and it shall keep going. That replacement time can be as short as a minute," he explained.

Though currently, the cost of fuel cells is high, it is seeing a gradual reduction as the technology develops and gets adopted in the commercial sphere.

"The batteries are already available commercially and are being produced on a mass-scale. This technology is fairly new and still in the research and development stage. So once they become available commercially the cost will become comparable," Shivapuji added.

In August this year, India's first indigenously built hydrogen fuel cell bus was unveiled in Pune, developed by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and a private firm, KPIT Limited. Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the 'National Hydrogen Mission' last year which aims at making India a hub for the production and export of green energy alongside making India's energy needs fully independent by 2047.

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9591233247

Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Call for repair

Byrapura

The road in Byrapura village of Arakere Panchayat is badly damaged.

Trash pile

Brunton Cross Road

Rubbish is lying piled up on Brunton Cross Road.

Lake under threat

Uttarahalli

Dore Kere Lake in Uttarahalli is in a terrible condition.

You can now lend a hand to help someone heal

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The National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) has come out with a 'well-being volunteers' programme open to citizens who wish to help those with mental health issues.

As there is a growing concern in the field of mental health due to lack of availability, accessibility and affordability of mental health services, there are many individuals from different walks of life who require help to cope with their psychosocial issues in an effective manner. On the other hand, there is no adequate manpower and resources in dealing with the mental health issues.

NIMHANS started with this program where people from different walks of life like teachers, IT professionals, home maker, NGO workers, youth, businessman can be trained in the field of mental health.

The programme was initiated in the 2016 and so far, 200 volunteers have been trained in six batches. After a four-month workshop, the volunteers reach out to different institutions or work places to identify people requiring help with mental health and counsel them or refer them to the NIMHANS centre for wellbeing (NCWB) or the NIMHANS main campus.

The 200 volunteers who have completed the workshop has identified and referred around 800 patients to NCWB and NIMHANS.

Dr E Aravind Raj, Additional Professor of Psychiatric Social Work, NIMHANS, said, "The aim of the sessions is to equip the skills of volunteers in identification of mental health problems in community and referral to the mental health facility, home visit, telephone services, basic counselling, stress management, suicide prevention strategies and psychosocial competencies of children which cover the preventive, curative and promotion components of mental health issues."

Some of the initiatives carried out by the volunteers after their training were visit to home for mentally challenged, old age homes, parenting program at apartment association, and life skills program at schools or colleges and educating colleagues about "sleep hygiene" and handling stress.

They also initiated the community orientation programme on 'Need for Mental Health Intervention' and carried out identification of skilled job opportunities for patients with mental illness.

Dr Arvind further added, "In the past and present, the involvement and efforts of the volunteers in various fields is itself a proof of sustainability of the volunteer program. It will be definitely the same if there is a volunteer force in the field of mental health and the cost involved in creating such group is much lesser compared to the efforts taken by them followed by the training program. Thus, such programs should be taken up by various mental health institutions all over the country and create large number of trained volunteers who are readily available for various mental health services in association with mental health professionals."

Where's an all-inclusive space for us, ask cyclists

... In the wake of being banned from lakes and harassed by home guards, cyclists want a public space that can be shared by everyone in the community

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For most cyclists in Bengaluru, the lack of cyclist-friendly facilities and infrastructure comes as a pet peeve. To add to that, recently, a cyclist pointed out that the community is also often banned from entering several lakes and harassed by the home guards.

Shilpi Sahu, a cyclist and an IT employee complained that at many parks, lakes, and other public spaces, cyclists are not allowed to enter. "The problem is that these rules really do not have any basis. If it is some small space where the cycles are not allowed it is a different thing, but even at large and wide spaces like Kundanahalli Lake and several other areas, it does not make any sense to ban cyclists from entering."

"It does not make sense why non-motorised vehicles cannot be allowed even during the visiting hours," Sahu told Bangalore Mirror.

Another issue that the cyclists complained about was that there is no uniform rule regarding a ban on cycling at lakes or other public spaces.

"The home guards at lakes and parks are often swapped. Some of them believe that cycling is not allowed, so they stop you from entering the lakes where you were allowed to cycle earlier. This keeps happening. New people come in and change the rules," Sahu added.

Cyclists complain that spaces for them are decreasing or being encroached

Bangalore Mirror
Cycle lanes hijacked, destroyed: Cyclists
Private vehicle owners often violate cycle lane rules to avoid traffi

Our story on Sep 27 covered how cycle lanes are constantly being encroached by motorists

Cyclists complain that they are often turned back from these public spaces.

Bengaluru's cycle mayor, Sathya Sankaran, told Bangalore Mirror that public spaces should be shared by everyone and banning a particular community is not the solution.

"They said that there have been accidents involving cyclists and walkers. How can we equate the danger that comes with motor vehicles to cycles? In places like these, they can always set speed limits and put such rules that will ensure the safety of pedestrians. Enforcement has to happen but the solution cannot be found by banning anything," he said.

Cyclists say that cycling is a green mode and has to be encouraged in a large city like Bengaluru with traffic and pollution issues on the rise. However, it is only being discouraged by rules like these.

> **"The home guards at lakes and parks are often swapped. Some of them believe that cycling is not allowed, so they stop you from entering the lakes where you were allowed to cycle earlier**
>
> –Shilpi Sahu, a cyclist

"We have to learn to share these public spaces and we have to educate the people about what is the right thing to do. But banning people from entering these spaces is harassment," he said.

The cyclists also added that in the city, the spaces for cyclists are already shrinking with mismanaged, encroached, or shrinking cycle lanes.

Brand B'luru & more at Invest K'taka '22

Karnataka is a wonderful confluence of technology and culture, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said at the virtual inauguration of the three-day Global Investors Meet (GIM) of 'Invest Karnataka 2022'. He also invited investors from all across the world to come and invest in Karnataka.

Among top industrialists, Chairman Jindal Group-Sajjan Jindal, Vice Chairman of Toyota Kirloskar Motor Pvt Ltd Vikram S Kirloskar, Wipro Chairman Rishad Premji, Bharti Enterprises Vice Chairman Rajan Bharti Mittal, Adani Ports CEO Karan Adani and others participated.

"This is a place that is known for its architecture as well as vibrant start-up ecosystem. Whenever talent and technology are talked about, brand Bengaluru comes to mind first, and this name is established not only in India but worldwide. The state is also known for its natural hotspots. I am happy that GIM is happening in India, and it is a perfect example of competitive and cooperative federalism," he added.

"I can see that companies from all over the world are participating in this meet. I have been told that investment partnerships worth thousands of crores of rupees are expected to fructify during the event, and it will generate employment opportunities for the youth at a large scale," added Modi.

The Prime Minister said that while the whole world is passing through a crisis, India is being identified as a bright spot by experts and economists, and we are working on our fundamentals to strengthen our economy further. "The number of Free Trade Agreements that we have signed in the last few months have indicated towards our preparation to the world," he said.

Modi said that the power of a double-engine government was propelling the development of Karnataka, adding that, "investing in India means investing in inclusion, investing in democracy, investing for the world, and investing for a better, cleaner and a safer planet".

Chief Minister Bommai assured all support from his government to the investors in the state and said that "Karnataka is a pioneer in recovery from the covid impact. The state has been able to garner good investment post-covid. This shows the trust our investors have in us who have all gathered here at the Global Investors Meet."

In addition to the speaker sessions, a number of networking events, business exhibitions (with 300+ exhibitors), and country sessions would run parallelly across the 3 days. The country sessions would each be hosted by the partner countries -- France, Germany, Netherlands, South Korea, Japan, and Australia -- which would be bringing in high-level ministerial and industrial delegations from their respective countries.

The Global Investors Meet was inaugurated on Wednesday

Keep off the grass: It's better that way

Campaign to make Hesaraghatta grassland conservation reserve has garnered about 75,000 signatures; Karnataka Wildlife Board meets today to discuss issue

A view of the Hesaraghatta grassland, the last one of its kind in Bengaluru (File photo); experts say that any degradation to the fragile and unique ecosystem of this place can affect the groundwater table and surface water availability in the region

| Garima Prasher
c-garima.prasher@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A day ahead of the Karnataka Wildlife Board meeting on November 3, a signature campaign started by citizens to save Hesaraghatta grassland has garnered around 75,000 signatures in just over three days. The meeting will involve discussing a proposal to notify the grassland as a conservation reserve.

The campaign, christened 'Save Hesaraghatta ', was started on Sunday, and people were invited to support the cause by signing the proposal.

"The support we have received for this campaign has been overwhelming. We did not expect so many people to come forward over such a short period. We have got signatures not just from Bengaluru and Karnataka, but also from other parts of the country and beyond," said Vijay Nishant, president of NGO Project Vruksha Foundation.

The campaign was supposed to run for 15 days, but had to be cut short after the wildlife board announced the schedule of the meeting recently.

"We had planned a longer campaign. However, since the meeting was announced, we had to quickly wrap it up. Over 70,000 signatures in just three days is a tremendous response and shows the citizen's towards the issue. This is the last grassland of the city, and thus, it becomes everybody's duty to preserve it and pass it on to the next generation," said Saumya Shankar, one of the volunteers of the campaign.

> **"We cannot afford to lose an important ecological region such as Hesaraghatta which is rich in biodiversity**
> – Dr TV Ramachandra
> Center for Ecological Sciences, IISc

The campaign organisers also met the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Wildlife), Karnataka Forest Department on Wednesday and submitted the signatures.

"The PCCF (wildlife) has agreed to extend his support for this cause," added Nishant.

Board meeting day

The Karnataka State Wildlife Board, under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, will be meeting at 4.30 pm on Thursday to seal the fate of the grassland.

Conservationists and ecologists say they are expecting the board to take the right decision and declare the grassland as a conservation reserve.

"Any degradation to this fragile and unique ecosystem will surely impact the groundwater table as well as surface water availability in the region. We are already facing a severe environmental crisis due to ecosystem degradation. We need to wake up and make the right choices. We cannot afford to lose an ecologically important region such as Hesaraghatta which also houses a range of biodiversity," said Dr TV Ramachandra, Center for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science (IISc).

"We need not only to protect this ecosystem, but if possible, enrich it further," said Akshay Heblikar, a member of Bengaluru's Biodiversity Management Committee and founder of ECO Watch NGO.

The meeting was originally supposed to take place on September 5 this year to decide the grassland's status.

However, the meeting was cancelled at the last minute.

Earlier in 2021, the Karnataka State Board for Wildlife had rejected the proposal to declare Hesaraghatta as a conservation reserve, but the Karnataka High Court later directed the board re-consider its proposal regarding the same.

Curious case of misleading pamphlets

In the days leading up to the much-anticipated Karnataka Wildlife Board's meeting to seal the fate of Hesaraghatta grassland, farmers from nearby villages were being bombarded with fake information, alleged environmentalists and activists in the area. While the momentum to declare the grassland as a conservation reserve has only been growing over the past few months, activists are miffed with pamphlets being distributed in the region with false news about the grassland and its status. "A group of people has been distributing pamphlets with misleading information about Hesaraghatta. They are provoking farmers and residents by telling them that once given protection, their cattle will not be allowed to graze," said Chandan M, a resident of the area and volunteer. Activists fear that misinformation might lead to farmers' protesting, hurting the cause. "The pamphlets being circulated claim that the grassland will be converted into a reserve forest, which is wrong information. A reserve forest has an entirely different definition and level of protection compared to a conservation reserve. The miscreants are also claiming that there is no wildlife or biodiversity in the grassland to be protected. This is manipulating people's perception of reality," said Vijay Nishant, founder of Project Vruksha, who had filed the petition to declare Hesaraghatta as a conservation reserve. Activists say the petition filed earlier to declare the grassland as a conservation reserve clearly states that it will be beneficial not just for the biodiversity in and around the area, but also for farmers and their cattle. It is the last remaining grassland habitat of Bengaluru, which also acts as a lifeline for farmers. Moreover, the 5,010 acre Hesaraghatta lake bed, its surrounding scrub forest, and grassland are teeming with biodiversity, making it critical to the water security of the city. "Hesaraghatta is biodiverse and a unique grassland ecosystem. It is also an important patch of land for farmers living in the vicinity. We always talk about trees in Bengaluru, but grassland ecosystems are equally important. This area should be kept intact," said another city-based environmentalist.

Think before you drink up

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sewage and extensive use of fertilisers. High concentrations can cause methemoglobinemia and have been cited as a risk factor in developing a form of intestinal (gastric) cancer.

"Nitrate is carcinogenic and leaches into the groundwater table mainly from domestic sewage disposed of in unscientifically designed landfills, or even in the open. If you release untreated sewage into lakes, the nitrate level in groundwater is bound to go up. We have conducted a study of groundwater quality around lakes receiving untreated sewage. All the samples around were high in nitrate levels," said Dr TV Ramachandra of the Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science (IISc).

High fluoride

Around 5% of the samples collected from bore wells of Bengaluru's rural districts indicated fluoride levels greater than the permissible limit of 1.5 mg/l. Southwest and northeast parts of the taluk were the worst hit with fluoride content ranging between 0.24 to 1.6 mg/l. Experts said most of the fluoride found in groundwater is of geogenic origin (naturally occurring) and is extremely dangerous to health.

"Continued consumption of high concentrations of this mineral causes dental fluorosis and in extreme cases even skeletal fluorosis. High fluoride levels in groundwater samples imply overexploitation. The deeper you go, the higher the fluoride content will be," said a city-based expert.

Water samples from multiple shallow aquifers across the three taluks were collected during pre-monsoon and analysed for pH, electrical conductivity (EC), chloride, nitrate and fluoride content. Based on the hydrochemical data, the potability of these samples was then assessed as per the standards prescribed by the Bureau of Indian Standards (IS 10500: 2012).

Over exploited

The report examined the depth at which groundwater was available across all three taluks. It was observed that while the groundwater table has gone up in recent years due to good rainfall, urbanisation has forced the city into an over-exploited zone.

While the most recently recorded groundwater availability in Bengaluru east taluk was found to be 2,727 hectare metres (ham), the extraction was to the tune of 4,394 ham, making it an over-exploited region.

In Bengaluru north, while the groundwater availability was 3,239 ham, extraction reached 4,337 ham. In Bengaluru rural (Doddaballapur), while groundwater was found to be available at 4,753 ham, 6,527 ham was extracted.

"Urbanisation should happen with proper planning; the city landscape should be porous. However, the present trend of concretisation will kill the city soon; we should decongest Bengaluru on a priority basis. We need to make sure that it is liveable by ensuring enough open spaces such as green patches and waterbodies. Such arrangements ensure groundwater recharge and water security," added Dr Ramachandra.

Hit circuit: In 3 days, Karnataka govt's train to holy places is all booked

Karnataka government along with the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) had jointly started the Karnataka Bharat Gaurav Kashi Darshan Train, which covers some of the most sacred places in India.

The state government announced the booking on October 30 and within three days all the seats were reserved indicating a great turnout for the state government.

The train scheduled to leave on November 11 on an eight-day long journey will cover prominent sacred places in Varanasi, Ayodhya & Prayagraj for Rs 5,000. In Varanasi places like Tulsi Manas Temple, Sankat Mochan Hanuman Temple, Kashi Vishwanath Temple and Ganga Aarti will be covered.

In Ayodhya, the Ram Janmbhoomi Temple, Hanuman Garhi, and Saryu Ghat will be covered. At Prayagraj, places like Ganga-Yamuna Sangam, and Hanuman Temple will be visited by the passengers.

The train will depart from Bengaluru and will board tourists at Birur, Haveri, Hubballi, Belagavi, and Raibag stations.

On the first day of the announcement of the train journey, over 200 seats were booked online and within three days, all 540 seats have been fully booked. At State religious council meeting held on Wednesday, Mujarai, Haj and Waqf Minister Shashikala Jolle said, "This is a record in the history of IRCTC where all the bookings were made in a short time and we are happy to see the unprecedented response to the project. The tour package of eight days will include all the privileges.

The packaging will also include train fare, bus arrangements, hotel accommodation, meals, and snacks for eight days."

With a splendid response towards the first journey, the second tour date will be announced soon. **— Iffath Fathima**

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Piping Modelling / Drafting: Code (PID)

Experience in 3D Modelling using PDS / PDMS / SP3D / E3D software. 2D knowledge with exposure to Microstation, AutoCAD and Smartsketch.

Process Engineering: Code (PRE) (Lead Engineer / Senior Engineer / Engineer)

Experience in engineering of upstream and or downstream hydrocarbon units (Refinery & Petro Chemical). Exposure to HAZOP and usage of Hysys & other simulation software. Flow assurance experience will be an added advantage.

Process Drafting: Code (PRD)

Experience in PID Drafting using AVEVA / SPPID / AutoCAD.

Civil & Structural Engineering: Code (CSE)

Experience in Basis of design, specifications, STAADPro, Found 3D, MAT 3D, SAP 2000 & Revit software with exposure to design of Pipe Racks, Process Structures, Equipment foundations, blast proof structures. Exposure to American & Euro Codes, Underground works would be added advantage.

Offshore Structural Engineering: Code (SCE)

Experience in Basis of Design, SACS (all modules), Weight control and report, STAADPro, MAT 3D & Revit software with exposure to design of Topsides, Substructure, Bridge, Flare, Pipe Racks, Process Structures, Equipment and topsides foundations, blast proof structures. Experience in modularized and integrated topsides structure experience is added advantage.

Civil Modelling / Drafting: Code (CSD)

Experience in 3D Modelling using PDS/SP3D & PDMS / E3D and CADWorx - exposure in modelling of Piperacks, Process Structures, equipment foundation. 2D knowledge with exposure to Microstation, AutoCAD and Smartsketch. Exposure to 3D Modelling of Underground systems, trenches, & Pavements and software like TEKLA would be an added advantage.

Instrument Engineering: Code (INE)

Experience in Basis of design, Specification, Data sheets System architecture, DCS, Instrument Index, I/O List, TBE, VDR, Cable Schedules, Data Sheets, Control and Relief Valve sizing, F & G detector location selection / Cable block diagrams, SPI / AVEVA instrument experience in Engineering Modules.

Instrument Modelling / Drafting: Code (IND)

Experience in 3D Modelling using PDS/SP3D & PDMS / E3D software. 2D knowledge with exposure to Microstation, AutoCAD and Smartsketch. SPI Exposure in wiring module / Hook up module, Installation drawings. Preparation of F & G and Telecom layouts.

Electrical Engineering: Code (ELE)

Experience in Basis of Design, Specification, Data sheet, TBE, VDR, SLD, Load List, Electrical Equipment specs, Layouts, Cable sizing, Cable schedule, Transformer sizing/ Material requisitions and Review of Vendor data and drawings. Experience in ETAP, DIALux, SPEL. Exposure to ANSI, IEC Standards would be added advantage.

Electrical Modelling / Drafting: Code (ELD)

Experience in 3D Modelling using PDS/SP3D & PDMS / E3D software. 2D knowledge with exposure to Microstation, AutoCAD and Smartsketch.

Mechanical Rotating: (Lead Engineer / Engineer) (MRE)

Experience (with knowledge of Rotor-dynamics) in compressors (motor & turbine driven) pumps and other turbo-machinery and packages (process & utility). Preparation of Material requisition, Specification, Data sheet TBE, VDR. Conversant with API codes and standards.

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Sr. No	POSTS	TENTATIVE VACANCIES
01	I.T. Officer (Scale-I)	44
02	Agricultural Field Officer (Scale I)	516
03	Rajbhasha Adhikari (Scale I)	25
04	Law Officer (Scale I)	10
05	HR/Personnel Officer (Scale I)	15
06	Marketing Officer (Scale I)	100

The tentative schedule of events is as follows:

Events	Tentative Dates
On-line registration including Edit/ Modification of Application by candidates	01.11.2022- 21.11.2022
Payment of Application Fees/Intimation Charges (Online)	01.11.2022- 21.11.2022
Download of call letters for Online examination – Preliminary	December 2022
Online Examination – Preliminary	**24.12.2022/ 31.12.2022**
Result of Online exam – Preliminary	January 2023
Download of Call letter for Online exam – Main	January 2023
Online Examination – Main	**29.01.2023**
Declaration of Result of Online Main Examination	February 2023
Download of call letters for interview	February 2023
Conduct of interview	February/March 2023
Provisional Allotment	April 2023

Candidates are advised to regularly keep in touch with the authorised IBPS website www.ibps.in for details and updates.
Before registering online, candidates are advised to read the detailed notification and follow the instructions mentioned therein.

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, VINDYA MURTHY D/O LAKSHMI NARASIMHA MURTHY born on 2nd Jan 1990 residing at Vinayaka Nilaya, 1200, 1st Floor, 10th Cross, Ashok Nagar, BSK 1st Stage, Bangalore - 560050, declare that VINDYA MURTHY and SOWMYA NAYAKI VINDYA MURTHY are the names of one and the same person vide affidavit dated 1st Nov 2022 at Bangalore.

I, SHARMISHTHA SINHA W/o ABHINAV PRAKASH, R/o FLAT NO-231, DSR EDEN GREENS, CARMELARAM ROAD, SARJAPUR ROAD BENGALURU -560035 KARNATAKA, have changed my name as SHARMISTHA SINHA, vide affidavit dated 02.11.2022 sworn before notary Rajanna S.M, Bengaluru.

I, NITHYA KUMARI W/o Mahesh Perumal R/at No. 191/31, 18th cross, 20th Main, MC Layout, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru- 560040, have changed my name to NITHYA KUMARI RAVI vide affidavit dated: 2/11/2022 Before Notary M.K.Devaki Bangalore.

I Mohammed Ruksana D/o Akram R/o No 86 Bhujanga Building 3rd Floor 7th Cross 5th Main Road Vasanthapp Block Ganga Nagar Bangalore North Bengaluru Karnataka - 560032 have changed my name to Sofiya khan and date of birth from 07/04/1997 to 05/05/2001

I, ANSHUL GUPTA, R/o B2, 092, SNN Raj Etternia, Silver County Road, Near Harlur Road, Bangalore South, Bangalore-560068 have changed my Son name (minor) from ASWATH GUPTA to ASHWATH GUPTA.

I, Abhishek S/O, Champa Lal R/o B 2121 Prestige Notting Hill, Bannerghatta Road, Hulimavu, Bengaluru - 560076 have changed my name to Abhishek Garg for all purposes.

I Abhishek S/O, Sangeeta Basavaraj R/o #9 Abhishek Nivas 2nd Main 2nd Cross Vinayaka Layout Munnekolala Marathahalli Bangalore have changed my name to Abhishek B Y for all purposes

I Adarsh Anchalkar Mohan Rao S/O, E Mohan Rao R/o 9/3, 2nd Cross, 3rd Block, L.i.c Colony, Jayanagar East, Bangalore - 560011 have changed my name to Adarsh Anchalkar for all purposes.

I, M Ashokkumar R/o B 13 Century Corbel Apartment, Sahakar Nagar Bangalore - 560092 have changed my minor son's name from Abhishek to Abhishek Iyer for all purposes.

BEWARE!

Using chemical hair straightening products can put you at a higher risk of having uterine cancer

Iffath Fathima
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Many women have shown a tendency to use hair straighteners and other straightening chemicals to get that smooth, straight hair look. However, a recent study showcased that women who used chemical hair straightening products were at higher risk for uterine cancer than women who did not report using these products.

Health professionals caution against the use of hair straighteners.

The National Institute of Health carried out the study, and the scientists in the study found that women who reported frequent use of hair straightening products, were more than twice as likely to go on to develop uterine cancer compared to those who did not use the products.

The study data included 33,497 US women ages 35-74, which was followed up for eleven years and during that time 378 uterine cancers were found. The study stated that the rising incidence of uterine cancer was seen only in black women, as they tend to start the use of these products at an early age. It was estimated that 1.64 per cent of women who never used hair straighteners would go on to develop uterine cancer by the age of 70; but for frequent users, that risk goes up to 4.05 per cent.

The reason stated was that several chemicals that have been found in straighteners (such as parabens, bisphenol A, metals, and formaldehyde) could be contributing to the increased uterine cancer risk. Due to increased absorption through the scalp which may be exacerbated by burns and lesions caused by straighteners.

Health professionals from the city pointed out that though the study needs further validation, however, women need to be cautious and aware of using such products.

"Uterine cancer is the sixth most common cancer. The study showcased that women who used straighteners have double chances of cancer, especially black women. The possible action for this is due to the chemicals and metals. We already had a similar study, chemicals used in hair straightening caused hormone-dependent and hormone-sensitive cancer such as ovarian cancer. It is however not found in other races. Other haircare products like bleaching, and hair dyes do not have any impact. There are multiple factors for uterine cancer like PCOD, and obesity, hence it is not just one reason which could cause it," said Professor Dr Somashekhar SP, Chairman of Medical Advisory Board and Global Director of Aster International Institute of Oncology, Aster DM Healthcare, India & GCC.

We need to find out if is only for one cause. Women should however be careful and more research should be carried out as to why only women have it. The study needs to be validated and it is also important to understand that this could however cause hormone-sensitive cancers, endometrial cancer, breast and ovary, Dr Somashekher added.

Dr Poornima Kinila, Consultant - Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Infertility, Aster RV Hospital said, "Uterine cancer is least common among the gynaecological cancers when compared to cervix and ovary and has an incidence of three in a 100. The rising trend in its incidence in recent years is due to many causes. PCOS, obesity, hypertension and certain environmental toxins have been some to think of. Bisphenol A, metals, formaldehyde and parabens which are some chemicals used by hairstylists and in salons may be implicated in the rising incidence. Though no formal study indicates this rising pattern in the Indian population researchers in the Western and African sects found a three per cent increase in incidence with a background history of chemical use. This alarming rise may be a warning trigger to curb their use and find suitable alternatives."

MIRRORLIGHTS

'Morning exercise has no benefits to control blood sugar'

Morning physical activity offers no advantages in reducing insulin resistance while afternoon or evening physical activity has now been associated with better blood sugar control to avoid diabetes risk in people, according to significant research.

It has long been argued that the timing of physical activity throughout the day may be a factor in metabolic health. However, the timing of physical activity is a relatively unexplored field in human biology and the mechanisms underlying the potential benefits of the timing of physical activity remain unclear. A new study published in Diabetologia has now discovered that afternoon or evening physical activity is associated with better blood sugar control. The study was led by Dr Jeroen van der Velde and colleagues at the Department of Clinical Epidemiology, Leiden University Medical Center, Leiden, the Netherlands.

For the study, the researchers used data from the Netherlands Epidemiology of Obesity (NEO) study.

Participants underwent a physical examination during which blood samples were taken to measure fasting and after-meal blood glucose and insulin levels, while demographic, lifestyle and clinical information were obtained via questionnaire.

They were also screened for suitability for an MRI scan, and roughly 35 per cent of those able to undergo the procedure were randomly selected to have their liver fat content measured using this technique.

"There was no significant difference in insulin resistance between morning activity and activity spread evenly over the day," the results showed.

Neither the amount of sedentary time nor the number of breaks in sedentary behaviour was found to have any favourable association with liver fat content or insulin resistance.

"It could be that in our study, the intensity of the activity during the breaks was too light to cause metabolic responses. Most daily activities are of light intensity and because we did not observe an association between LPA and insulin resistance, this may also explain the lack of an association between breaks and insulin resistance," the researchers noted.

"Further studies should assess whether the timing of physical activity is indeed important for the occurrence of type 2 diabetes," they added. —IANS

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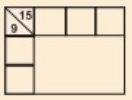
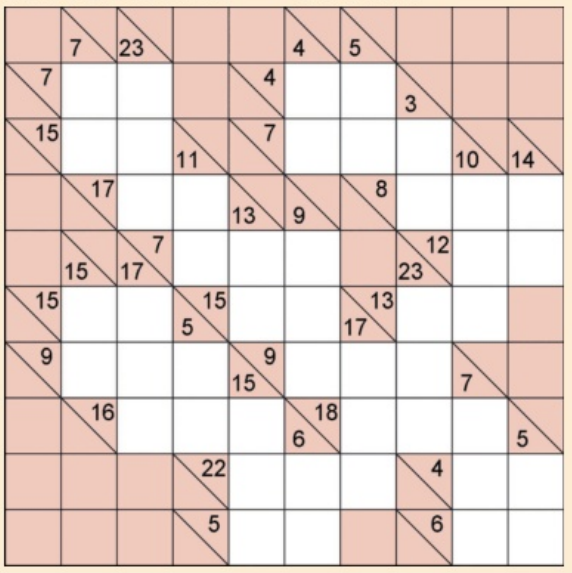
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

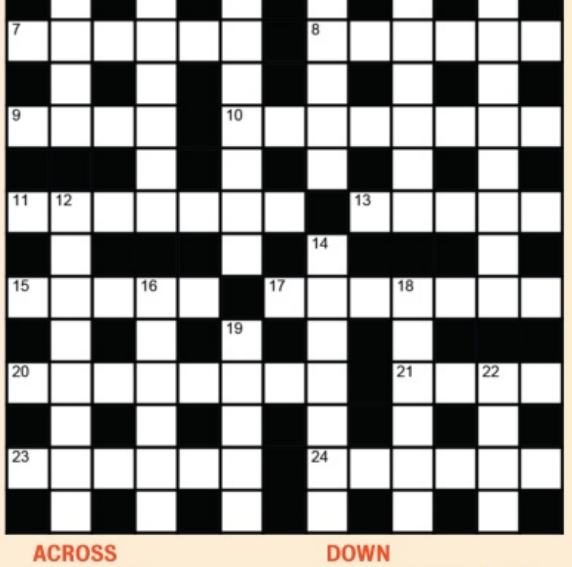


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Make safe (6)
8 Larger of the two moons of Mars (6)
9 Hollywood's Brad ___ (4)
10 That man from the New World? (8)
11 Scottish instrument (7)
13 Arabian spirit (5)
15 Dynasty which ruled the area around Bangalore in the 11th century (5)
17 Matched or paired (7)
20 Remaining chaste for religious reasons (8)
21 Talks noisily or foolishly (4)
23 Bereaved, deprived of (6)
24 Hide worker (6)

DOWN

1 Of local origin locally (4)
2 Row or tiff, shindy (4-2)
3 Absconds or takes oneself off? (7)
4 Situated above (5)
5 Observe (6)
6 Genuine or real (4,4)
12 Accomplished (8)
14 Windies paceman Andy ____ (7)
16 Linger idly (6)
18 Yielding as a return (6)
19 Realities (5)
22 Bakery offerings (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: K EQUALS H

DKC MXCQDCX DKC YMGAX-QGPC DKC MXCQDCX DKC LAMOQDYEO.

Linemaro

Well, here I am. What were your other two wishes?

Mindchow

The mind is not a vessel to be filled but a fire to be kindled

Joke of the day

Better to remain silent and be thought a fool, than to speak and remove all doubt

Loop

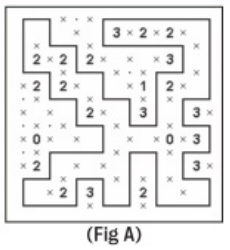
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

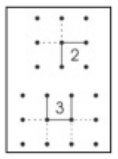
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

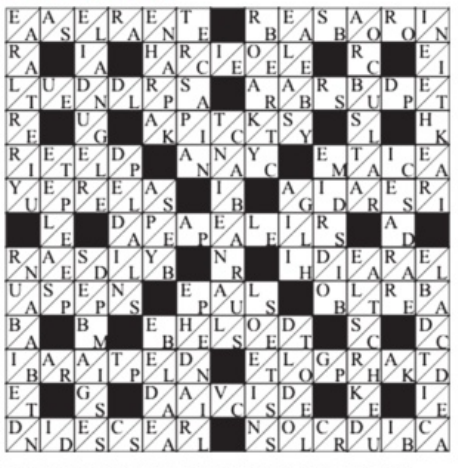


(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed

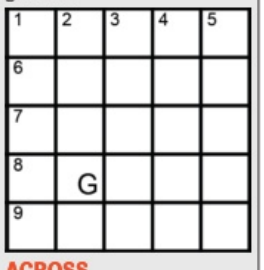
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 Babs L; 6 Ameer; 7 Or nip; 8 Tange; 9 De Dog

DOWN

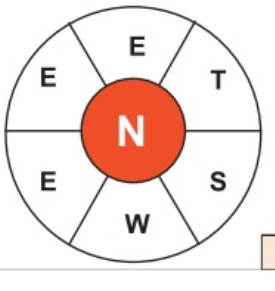
1 Dobra; 2 Goral; 3 Pad me; 4 Begin; 5 Teens

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?

100, 97.25, 91.75, 83.5, ?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

07 Average; 08 Good; 10 Outstanding

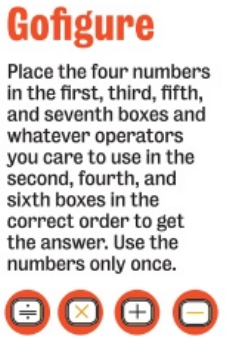
SudokuChallenge

	7						9	
1			8		3			6
		2		5		3		
	1	8	2	9	5	7	6	
	4	5	1	8	7	9	3	
		4		2		1		
9			5		4			8
	3						2	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

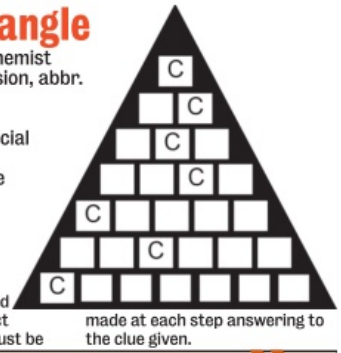
Differences: 1. Neckline is different. 2. Arm is shorter. 3. Locker is wider. 4. Hair is different. 5. Scale support is wider. 6. Mouth is different.

Riddler

What saying is seen here?
Richa Sue Deepika LAW Ramesh Jay Saurabh

Alpha triangle

1 Carbon for the chemist
2 Election Commission, abbr.
3 Certain cap
4 Biryani need
5 Oldtime town official
6 More risque
7 Conveyed or bore



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

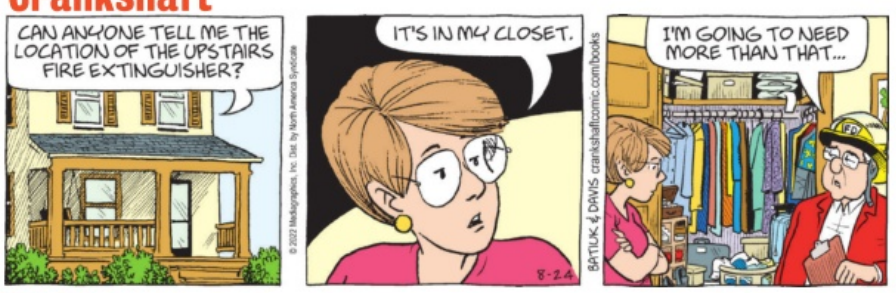
Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

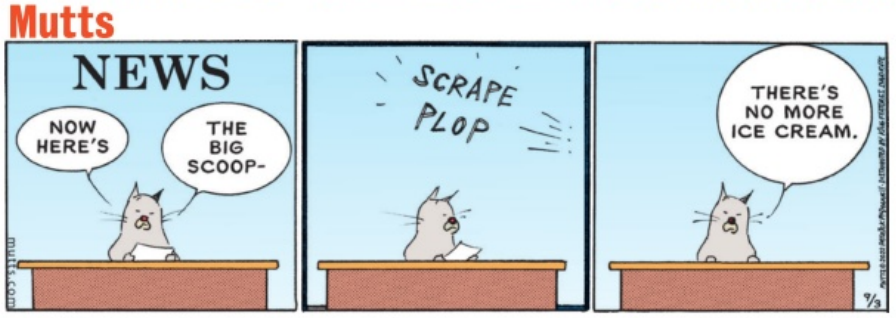
Hart of the city

IF THIS SECRET MTG TOURNAMENT IS WHAT I THINK IT IS, THE PRIZE IS A BLACK LOTUS CARD.
THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE! WHERE IS A SIXTH GRADER GOING TO GET THE MONEY FOR A BLACK LOTUS?
IT'S ALSO PAY TO PLAY, SO MAYBE THAT'S WHERE THE MONEY GOES.
THIS ALL SOUNDS FISHY. I SAY WE INVESTIGATE.
AGREED.

Crankshaft



Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may be happy and will have good patience, which may reflect into your way of working. You may complete your tasks in an efficient way. You may plan to visit a spiritual place. You can make donations to charity. Lovebirds may develop trust in their relationship. You may be able to control your opponents.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you may feel unhappy and dull. It can affect your way of working. There may be some delay in your projects that are to be completed. It may affect your prestige in your professional and domestic life. It is advised to avoid adventure tours or rash driving. Lovebirds may break up. Jobseekers may be disappointed in terms of a new job.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you may feel positive vibrations around you. Things are under control. You may plan to start a new business in a partnership. You can expect long distance travel. You will build faith with your spouse, which will bring harmony to your domestic life.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you may perform your best in the office. You may have good bonding with your boss. You may get some new responsibilities in terms of promotions. Chronic health issues may be cured now. You may get good incentives for your work too. Disputes with siblings may be resolved now. Job seekers may find new work.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may feel that life is a bit challenging. You may take advice from your elders to sustain the given situation. You need to keep patience. Children's education can make you upset. You may need to undertake short trips in terms of their academics. Investors are advised to avoid speculation before making any investments.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you will be a victim of dissatisfaction. You may not get results for your hard work. It may give you disappointment. You are advised to read documents carefully before signing a new contract. Investments in assets may also be possible. You are advised to follow your intuition before making investments in fixed assets.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you may be busy with social get-togethers and family occasions. It may increase your network. You may also plan for a work-related short trip. Disputes between siblings will be resolved now. Your juniors may cooperate with you to complete a difficult project. Your confidence may be high. You are advised to keep patience while interacting with any person.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you may be busy with family get-togethers. You may become polite with the people around you, which may boost your image among relatives and friends. You will spend money on buying some artefacts and items that will improve your social status. You may hear some good news from one of your close relatives.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, happiness may be all around you. It can help you enjoy your day-to-day work. Your vital power may help you take difficult decisions, which will increase your profits in the near future. You may plan for a work-related short trip. Juniors may support you to complete your work on time. Students may be more focused on their studies. You are advised to control your eating habits to avoid stomach issues.

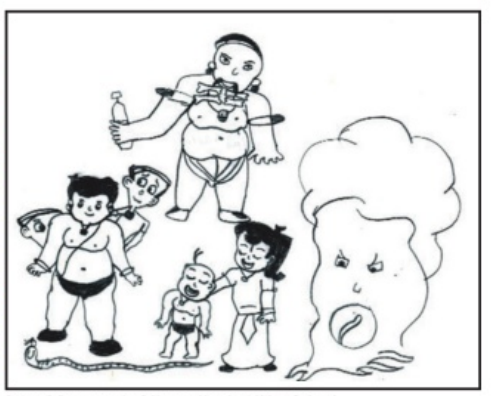
Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you may feel dull. Sleeplessness may affect your mental and physical health as well. You may also be upset due to health issues of your family members. Your expenditure on worthless items may affect your savings. You may be a victim of conspiracy, so you are advised to keep an eye on your opponents.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you may start your day with happiness. At work, you can make quick decisions, which may give you benefits in the near future. You may expect some new sources of income which may boost your savings. With the help of your partner, you may invest some amount in your business, which may be profitable in future. Your understanding with your spouse may be increased.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may be busy at your office. Due to mental tiredness, you may not be able to give time to your family. With the help of elders, job seekers may get some high position in a job. Managers may get promoted to top management. You may get rewards, which may increase your status. Professionally, you will do better.

KIDZONE

Nikhil S J, 9 Years, Kensri School


Arjun A Ranganath, 6 Years, Vagdevi Vilas School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
3√(3/2-3/5)*6/5
= (9/4- 9/10)*6/5
= 54/20- 54/50
= 27/10-27/25
= (27*5- 54)/50; (135-54)/50
= 81/50 = 1.62

FAST FIVE

B	L	A	B	S
R	A	M	E	E
O	R	P	I	N
A	G	E	N	T
D	O	D	G	E

BULL'S EYE
nest, newest, newt, seen, sent, sewn, went, SWEETEN, teen, tense,

RIDDLER
No man is above the law.

STRIKE OUT

A	S	L	A	N	T	B	A	B	O	O	N			
R	I		A	R	I	E	L		C		E			
T	U	N	D	R	A		A	B	R	U	P	T		
E	G		K	I	C	K	S		L		H			
R	E	E	D		N	A	Y		M	A	C	E		
Y	P	R	E	S	S		B	A	I	R	E	R		
	E		A	P	P	A	L	L	S		D			
R	E	D	L	Y		N		I	D	E	A	L		
B	A	I	T	E	D		T	O	P	H	A	T		
B	M		B	E	S	E	T		C		C			
U	S	E	S		P	A	S		O	T	R	A		
D	I	E	S	E	L		N	O	R	D	I	C		

QUICK

D		D		R		S		S		G		S		
B	E	R	E	F	F		T	A	N		N	E	R	
C	E	L	I		B	A	T	E		Y	A	P	S	
	I		O		F		B		A					
C	H	O	L	A		C	O	U	P	L	E	D		
	C				S				R					
B	A	G	P	I	P	E		G	E	N	I	E		
	U				M		R		C		F			
S	E	C	U	R	E		P	H	O	B	O	S		
P	I	T	T		A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N		
S		S		C		P		T		N				
D		D		U		N		B						

MENSA PUZZLE
75: the amount deducted increases by 2,75 each time, ie 2,75, 5,5, 8,25, 11.

QUOTE UNCODE
The greater the ignorance the greater the dogmatism.

SUDOKU

8	7	3	4	6	2	5	9	1
4	6	2	9	5	1	3	8	7
3	1	8	2	9	5	7	6	4
6	4	5	1	8	7	9	3	2
2	9	7	3	4	6	8	1	5
9	2	1	5	3	4	6	7	8
7	8	4	6	2	9	1	5	3
5	3	6	7	1	8	4	2	9

ALPHA TRIANGLE
C, EC, Ice, Rice, Cifer, Racier, Carried.

GO FIGURE
Easy
5 + 7 + 4 + 5 = 21
Medium
8 x 2 x 1 - 9 = 7
Hard
2 - 2 + 8 / 1 = 8

LOOP

KAKURO

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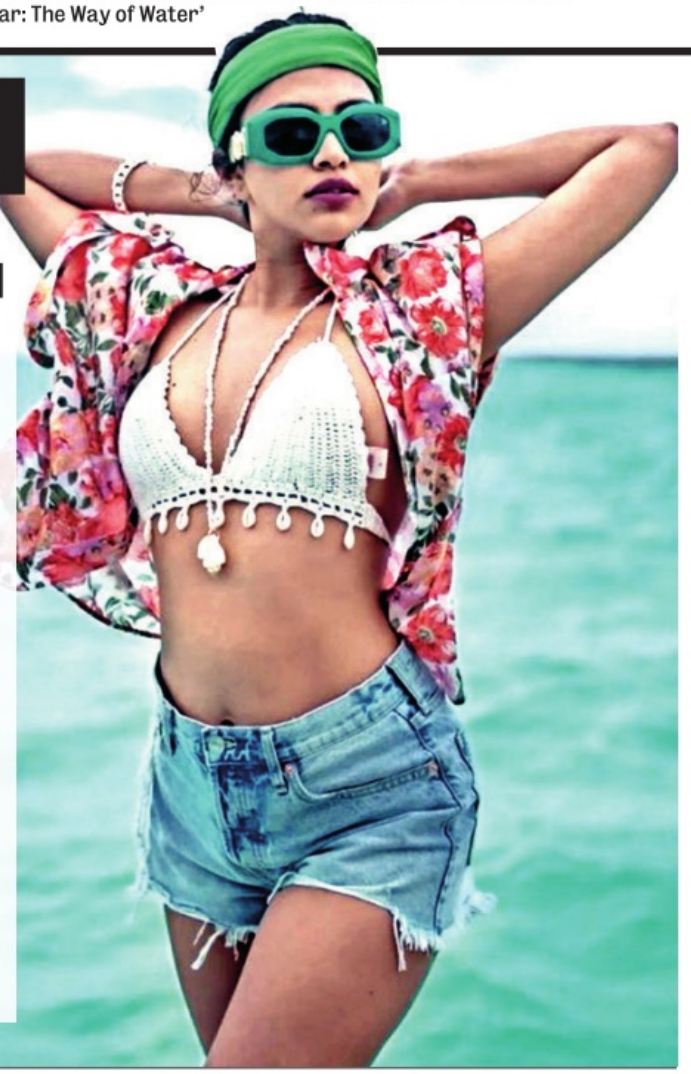
 # Trailer is out

Legendary Hollywood director James Cameron, on Wednesday, unveiled the official trailer of the much-awaited sci-fi action film 'Avatar: The Way of Water'

Cameo call

Amala Paul to make special appearance in Ajay Devgn directorial



The makers of Ajay Devgn's fourth directorial 'Bholaa' have announced that well-known southern actress Amala Paul will be making a special appearance in the film.

Amala Paul, who is best known for her performance in 'Myna', is to make a special appearance in the action extravaganza, playing a key role opposite Ajay Devgn.

Sources close to the actress said that she will be joining the team in the next schedule which is being planned for December this year.

The film has an eclectic starcast with powerhouse actors like Ajay Devgn and Tabu.

Directed by Dharmendra Sharma, 'Bholaa' is believed to be a remake of the Tamil superhit, 'Kaithi', featuring Karthi in the lead. **IANS**

Deets about Heidi Klum's Worm outfit

Heidi Klum broke the internet when she came out wearing a Halloween costume that looked like a worm. And it had many people wondering how she pulled it off or more importantly, how she used the loo!

And, Heidi Klum knew it wouldn't be simple to get out of her gigantic worm costume when she had to use the restroom.

Heidi spoke to Page Six on the red carpet of the Halloween party she was attending where she said, "That's going to be tricky!"

When Page Six further asked her how she planned on using the loo with this costume, she said, "A lot of it has to come off... When I gotta go, I'll have to destrap and make it happen somehow."

Heidi told Page Six that she needed assistance moving about since the outfit, which took more than 10 hours to finish, left her feeling "claustrophobic."

According to Page Six, she told reporters present there, "It's hard for me to move. I don't really have arms or legs." She added, "When I fall over I need someone to help me get back up. I'm kind of stuck in it, you know? It feels a little claustrophobic."

Heidi later abandoned her slimy costume to reveal a dazzling mesh outfit that didn't leave much to the imagination. She came for the party along with her husband Tom Kaulitz, who was dressed as a fisherman.

Heidi Klum's model daughter Leni, Elon Musk and his mother Maye, Ice-T and Coco, Kim Petras, and Heather Graham were among the other attendees at the Halloween party. **—ANI**

It was Suhana's best friend's birthday

As the king of romance Shah Rukh Khan turns 57 today, his daughter Suhana Khan posted a sweet message for her best friend on social media along with a throwback picture.

Suhana took to Instagram where she shared a childhood picture of herself. It features her along with her father Shah Rukh and brother Aryan. The siblings can be seen posing with SRK.

She captioned it: "Happy birthday to my best friend," and added with a heart emoji: "I love you the most."

Suhana is all set to make her Bollywood debut with Zoya Akhtar's adaptation of 'The Archies'. The film will also star late actor Sridevi and film producer Boney Kapoor's daughter Khushi Kapoor, and Amitabh Bachchan's grandson Agastya Nanda.

SRK married his wife Gauri in 1991. The star couple have three children Aryan, Suhana and AbRam.

'Thank you mama'

The teaser of Shah Rukh Khan's upcoming starrer 'Pathaan' has taken the internet by storm. Comments and appreciation have been pouring in from all sides.

Joining the bandwagon of celebrities praising the teaser was Alia Bhatt. The soon-to-be mommy took to her Instagram Stories and shared the teaser of 'Pathaan'. She captioned it, 'JUST NEXT LEVEL!!!!!!!'

Re-sharing her post on her handle, Deepika replied, 'Thank you Mama! @aliabhatt', followed by a kissing face emoji.

Earlier, Deepika had been in a relationship with Ranbir Kapoor. The actor is now married to Alia Bhatt and the couple is also expecting their first child together. Despite this history, Deepika and Alia share a great bond with each other.

Meanwhile, 'Pathaan' marks the end of Shah Rukh Khan's four year old sabbatical. The film also stars John Abraham in a key role. The Siddharth Anand directorial is slated to hit theatres on January 25, 2023.

Apart from this, Deepika is a part of Nag Ashwin's untitled next with Prabhas and 'The Intern' with Amitabh Bachchan.

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

How it's going

Among the many artistes whose career got a kickstart thanks to director Vemagal Jagannath was Tara Anuradha. Now years later, Tara was chief guest for the audio launch of a movie by Jagannath. In 1985, Taraa made a debut in Sandalwood with Tulasidala by Jagannath. And recently she was at Renukamba Theater, where along with Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce president Ba Ma Harish she launched the audio of Avarta.

"I am happy to be here. It is director Vemagal who gave me an opportunity to act more than three decades ago. I wish all the best to Avarta," said Tara.

Jagannath said Avarta revolves around a youth who writes fiction. "The hero happens to visit a place to write a story based on a real-life incident. What happens to him while writing the story is what the film is about," said the director.

Jayachandra plays the lead role.

Off to Dubai

A team of Sandalwood artistes are expected to participate in the World Kannada Festival to be held in Dubai on November 19. Artistes such as Dr Shivarajkumar, Bhavya, Prema, Sudharani, Meghasri, Vasishta Simha and others are scheduled to leave for Dubai during the third week of November.

"All of us are leaving for Dubai to participate in the World Kannada Festival. I am happy to be part of a team of artistes from Karnataka," said Prema (**pic**) with a smile.

Prema said that she had completed all her assignments till date. "I have not finalised any Kannada movies as most of the scripts are not interesting," Prema said. Prema said that she is planning to stay with her sister in Dubai for a few more days after participating in the festival.

Vasishta Simha said he would be ready to support and encourage programmes organised to promote Kannada language and culture. "I have agreed to go to Dubai as the event is meant to promote Kannada," said Vasishta Simha.

Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar and Anand Guruji are also expected to attend the event.